## City of South Bend

September—October 2020



### Hello Neighbor,

I hope you and your family are well.

This has been a year unlike many others, but we continue to find new ways to safely conduct business and make sure our children are getting the education they need.

I am thankful for everyone's efforts to wear face coverings, maintain social distance, and stay focused on keeping COVID-19 under control so we can get our economy back on track.

There are still important things that cannot wait and must get done in 2020. One of those is responding to the once-in-a-decade Census.

So far, 3 in 5 households in South Bend have responded. But we've got to make sure everyone gets counted. Right now, Census workers are going door-to-door to collect responses. You can save them a trip to your door by mailing in the Census form you already received, or by filling the Census out online at 2020census.gov. Your answers will help us make South Bend a better place, and responding will only take about 10 minutes.

As I've mentioned to you in my previous letters, our work on public safety reform continues. In recent weeks, the City has released a draft of updates to our Use of Force policy for the South Bend Police Department. This new draft was developed based on feedback from the community and discussions with our police leadership and the administration.

I encourage you to take a look at the proposed policy and let us know your thoughts about it via an online survey. You can visit www.southbendin.gov/useofforce to see the policy and provide feedback.

Additionally, we're continuing work on more changes as recommended by the consulting firm 21CP, to make South Bend a national leader in 21st century policing and to help our officers to make this a safe community for everyone.

You can still access many city services remotely by calling 311 or visiting www.southbendin.gov/covid19cityservices .

Thank you again for your efforts to keep our community safe and healthy during these difficult times.

#### Clerk's Corner

Greetings, South Bend!

Are you still struggling to pay you rent or utility bills? If so the City of South Bend is here to provide more COVID-19 resources for you.

Residents of the City of South Bend who meet income qualifications may apply for rent assistance that can cover up to three months of rent for those whose income has been adversely affected by the COVID -19 pandemic. To apply, email rentalassist@realservices.com or call 574-233-8205.

Residents at risk of utility disconnection can apply for up to \$125 per month in assistance through the Salvation Army Kroc Center. To apply, call 574-233-9471 ext. 2206 and leave a message.

If you are facing eviction and need legal representation, there are a number of organizations that will provide legal services, including:

- -The Notre Dame Clinical Law Center, 574-631-6704.
- -Volunteer Lawyer Network, 574-277-0075 or volunteerinc@att.net -Indiana Legal Services, 574-234-8121 or visit www.indianalegalservices.org

Best,

Dawn M. Jones City Clerk

Daws M. Jones

Sincerely,

Mayor Mueller

# THE WAY

## 2020 FALL RELEAF PROGRAM

## November 2 - December 3\*

\*All dates are weather permitting and subject to change. Visit southbendin.gov/fallreleaf for most up-to-date schedule.

